

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

100-5000 ppm  
1. A graphite powder containing 0.01 to 5.0 wt% of boron and having a looped closure structure at an end of a graphite c-planar layer on the surface of a powder, with the density of the interstitial planar sections between neighboring closure structures being not less than 100/ $\mu\text{m}$  and not more than 1500/ $\mu\text{m}$ .

2. The graphite powder according to claim 1 wherein the distance between c-axis (002) planar lattice distance (d002) as found by the lattice constant precision method by X-ray diffraction is not more than 3.3650 Å.

3. The graphite powder according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the specific surface area is not more than 1.0 m<sup>2</sup>/g, the crystallite diameter is 100 to 2000 Å and/or the volume cumulative mean particle size as measured by the laser diffraction scattering method is 5 to 35  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. A method for producing a graphite powder according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ <sup>claim 1</sup> comprising:

a step of adding boron; wherein

a carbon material pulverized at an elevated speed before and/or after carbonization is heat-treated at a temperature exceeding 1500°C for graphization.

5. A method for producing a graphite powder according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ <sup>claim 1</sup> comprising:

a step of adding boron; wherein

a carbon material pulverized before and/or after carbonization is heat-treated

at a temperature exceeding 1500°C for graphization,

*Sub B2*  
a ~~the heat-treated carbon material is surface-processed under a condition of~~  
a ~~scraping the surface of the produced graphite powder; and wherein~~

the surface-processed carbon material is heat-treated in an inert gas at a temperature exceeding 800°C.

6. The method for producing a graphite powder according to claim 5 wherein

*B* the heat treatment under the condition of scraping the surface of the produced graphite powder is oxidating heat treatment.

*Sub D2*  
7. The method for producing a graphite powder according to *claim 4* ~~any one of claims 4 to~~  
~~6~~ wherein the carbon material is obtained by carbonization of mesophase globules and/or the bulk mesophase.

8. A negative electrode material of a lithium ion secondary battery mainly composed of graphite powders according to *claim 1* ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~.

9. A lithium ion secondary battery including a negative electrode manufactured from a negative electrode material according to claim 8.

Add D6>

Add F2>